

## What the program does

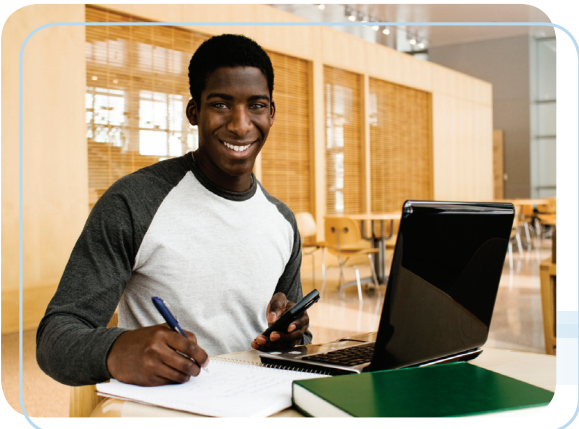
### Helps you get education or training for a better job

Thinking about changing jobs or starting a new career? The Competitive Skills Scholarship Program (CSSP) can help you get the skills you need to start work in one of Maine's many growing career fields.

The program is open to all qualified Maine residents and pays for education and training (including apprenticeships) for jobs in demand in Maine.

### Invests in the Maine economy

Maine businesses need trained workers in order to be competitive in the global economy. The Competitive Skills Scholarship is helping upgrade the skills of the labor force in areas of the economy where workers are most needed in the years ahead.



**MAINE**  
DEPARTMENT OF  
**LABOR**

The Competitive Skills Scholarship helps Maine residents who need skills for jobs in growing sectors of the Maine economy. The program is sponsored by the Maine Department of Labor.

## For more information

Call the CareerCenter nearest you, or  
1-888-457-8883  
TTY: 1-800-794-1110

[www.mainecareercenter.com/skillsscholarship](http://www.mainecareercenter.com/skillsscholarship)

**Career**Center

[www.mainecareercenter.com](http://www.mainecareercenter.com)

*The Maine Department of Labor provides equal opportunity in employment and programs. Auxiliary aids and services are available to individuals with disabilities upon request.*

01/11



# Competitive Skills Scholarship Program

Helping Maine workers prepare for careers in high-wage, in-demand occupations



[www.mainecareercenter.com](http://www.mainecareercenter.com)



## Training for jobs in demand

The Competitive Skills Scholarship assists with post-secondary education or training for jobs that the Maine Department of Labor has identified as high-wage occupations that are in demand in Maine.

### High wage occupations in demand...

- Have an average wage at or above the average wage for all occupations in Maine.
- Are projected to have at least 20 job openings annually.
- Include a wide variety of occupations that require credentials ranging from a certificate to a two- or four-year college degree.

### What if the occupation I want to prepare for isn't on the list?

If your desired career offers wages above the median for all occupations and you are likely to find a job in that field, you can request to have your training approved even though it is not on the occupations list. Find out more by contacting your local CareerCenter.

### Choose the training program that is right for you

The Competitive Skills Scholarship pays for several different education and training options including:

- Certificate programs
- Two- and four-year degree programs

## Financial Assistance and Support Services

The Competitive Skills Scholarship assists with expenses not covered by financial aid or other scholarships for qualified individuals. CSSP is designed to help you succeed in your education and still be able to afford to live! If you are eligible, you can receive financial assistance for tuition, fees and support services described below. Each of the support services has a specified maximum dollar limit. These support services may be available to you if they are necessary for the successful completion of your education and training program. See your local CareerCenter counselor for details.

In addition to paying for tuition and fees, the program may also pay for educational supports for individuals in training including:

- Childcare
- Transportation
- Eye care
- Dental care
- Required books, supplies, tools, equipment, uniforms
- Computer
- Training stipend
- Unexpected costs

**The CareerCenter will work with you to develop a plan based on your unique circumstances.**

**For programs details, visit:**

**[www.mainecareercenter.com/skillsscholarship](http://www.mainecareercenter.com/skillsscholarship)**

### You may qualify for the Competitive Skills Scholarship if you:

- Live in Maine
- Are at least 18 years of age
- Are legally eligible to work in the U.S.
- Are applying for education or training for a job in a high-wage, in-demand occupation
- Do not have a post-secondary degree – some exceptions apply
- Have the ability to undertake and complete education or training as determined by the institution providing the training
- Have an income of less than 200% of the federal poverty level for family size

**Annual Income Guidelines** are updated each year. To view the most up-to-date chart, visit: **[www.mainecareercenter.com/skillsscholarship](http://www.mainecareercenter.com/skillsscholarship)**